



**FAA
Aviation Safety**

EMERGENCY AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVE

www.faa.gov/aircraft/safety/alerts/

**DATE: May 27, 2011
AD #: 2011-12-51**

Emergency airworthiness directive (AD) 2011-12-51 is sent to owners and operators of Dassault Aviation Model FALCON 7X airplanes.

Background

The European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA), which is the Technical Agent for the Member States of the European Community, has issued Emergency Airworthiness Directive 2011-0102-E, dated May 26, 2011 (referred to after this as "the MCAI"), to correct an unsafe condition for the specified products.

EASA has advised that a Model FALCON 7X airplane experienced an uncontrolled pitch trim runaway during descent. The crew succeeded in recovering a stable situation and performed an uneventful landing. Analysis of the Digital Flight Data Recorder (DFDR) and Fault History Database (FHDB) confirmed the event, but did not identify the cause of the pitch trim runaway. This condition, if not corrected, could result in loss of control of the airplane.

To address this unsafe condition, the EASA AD prohibits, from the effective date of the EASA AD, any flight operations of FALCON 7X airplanes.

FAA's Determination

This product has been approved by the aviation authority of another country, and is approved for operation in the United States. Pursuant to our bilateral agreement with the State of Design Authority, we have been notified of the unsafe condition described in the MCAI referenced above. We are issuing this AD because we evaluated all pertinent information and determined the unsafe condition exists and is likely to exist or develop on other products of the same type design.

AD Requirements

This AD requires that, as of receipt of this AD, operation of Model FALCON 7X airplanes is prohibited.

Interim Action

We consider this AD interim action pending the outcome of the investigation currently being carried out by the manufacturer. We may consider further rulemaking when additional information is available.

Authority for this Rulemaking

Title 49 of the United States Code specifies the FAA's authority to issue rules on aviation safety. Subtitle I, Section 106, describes the authority of the FAA Administrator. Subtitle VII, Aviation Programs, describes in more detail the scope of the Agency's authority.

We are issuing this rulemaking under the authority described in Subtitle VII, Part A, Subpart III, Section 44701, “General requirements.” Under that section, Congress charges the FAA with promoting safe flight of civil aircraft in air commerce by prescribing regulations for practices, methods, and procedures the Administrator finds necessary for safety in air commerce. This regulation is within the scope of that authority because it addresses an unsafe condition that is likely to exist or develop on products identified in this rulemaking action.

Presentation of the Actual AD

We are issuing this AD under 49 U.S.C. Section 44701 according to the authority delegated to me by the Administrator.

2011-12-51 Dassault Aviation: Directorate Identifier 2011-NM-108-AD.

Effective Date

(a) This Emergency AD is effective upon receipt.

Affected ADs

(b) None.

Applicability

(c) This AD applies to Dassault Aviation Model FALCON 7X airplanes, certificated in any category, all serial numbers.

Subject

(d) Joint Aircraft System Component (JASC)/Air Transport Association (ATA) of America Code 27: Flight controls.

Unsafe Condition

(e) This AD was prompted by a report of an uncontrolled pitch trim runaway during descent. We are issuing this AD to prevent loss of control of the airplane.

Compliance

(f) Comply with this AD within the compliance times specified, unless already done.

Flight Prohibited

(g) As of receipt of this AD, operation of the airplane is prohibited.

Special Flight Permit

(h) Special flight permits, as described in Section 21.197 and Section 21.199 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR 21.197 and 21.199), are not allowed.

Alternative Methods of Compliance (AMOCs)

(i)(1) The Manager, International Branch, FAA, has the authority to approve AMOCs for this AD, if requested using the procedures found in 14 CFR 39.19. In accordance with 14 CFR 39.19,

send your request to your principal inspector or local Flight Standards District Office, as appropriate. If sending information directly to the manager of the ACO, send it to the attention of the person identified in the Related Information section of this AD. Information may be e-mailed to: 9-ANM-116-AMOC-REQUESTS@faa.gov.

(2) Before using any approved AMOC, notify your appropriate principal inspector, or lacking a principal inspector, the manager of the local flight standards district office/certificate holding district office.

Related Information

(j)(1) For further information about this AD, contact Tom Rodriguez, Aerospace Engineer, International Branch, ANM-116, Transport Airplane Directorate, FAA, 1601 Lind Avenue SW., Renton, Washington 98057-3356; phone: 425-227-1137; fax: 425-227-1149; e-mail: tom.rodriguez@faa.gov.

(2) Refer to MCAI European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) Emergency Airworthiness Directive 2011-0102-E, dated May 26, 2011, for related information.

Issued in Renton, Washington, on May 27, 2011.

Original signed by:

Ali Bahrami,
Manager, Transport Airplane Directorate,
Aircraft Certification Service.